

\$124,556 04 were raised by tax upon the several towns, and \$14,095 32 were derived from local funds possessed by certain towns.

"It appears also, that in addition to the public money, there was raised by voluntary contributions, for teachers' wages, \$346,807. This, with the interest on the value of the school-houses, and the expense of books and of fuel, makes a total sum of \$1,061,639 expended upon 499,424 scholars, in the course of one year. From this it will be seen, that where the State pays one dollar for teachers' wages, the inhabitant of the town by a tax on his own property pays \$1 25 cents, and by voluntary contributions in his district \$3 46 cents for the same object.

"The avails of the fund pay only one tenth of the annual expenditures upon common schools; another tenth is assessed upon the taxable inhabitants of the towns respectively, and the two tenths thus made up constitute what is called the school monies. Something less than two tenths is raised by a tax upon the property in the districts, and the residue, nearly six tenths, or \$600,000 (the whole expense being \$1,600,000) is paid voluntarily by the parents and guardians of the scholars."

Such is the result of this plan in New York. With only one tenth of the cost of her schools discharged by the funds, and the balance made up by a tax and voluntary contributions, she manages to educate *a half a million of children a year for one million of dollars!* A more perfect and economical system does not exist!

With this comparison of the different modes of supporting public schools, the committee decidedly prefer that adopted by New York.

There are no data, on which can be estimated, with any degree of certainty, the cost of a general system of education for this State, on the plan established in New York. The joint committee of the General Assembly of 1830, estimated the cost at \$156,000. They supposed that there are four hundred school districts, of five miles square, in this State—that the white population of this State is twenty to the square mile, excluding the cities and large towns—that the annual salary of a competent teacher, will be \$300, which for four hundred districts, gives \$120,000—to this \$36,000 is added for the cities and towns, making in the whole, \$156,000. The committee